

A NEW TROPICAL HEBRID

(Hemiptera)

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The present paper contains the description of a new species of *Merragata*, family Hebridae, from Panama and Mexico. The types are in my collection.

***Merragata quieta* Drake, new species**

Macropterous form: Short, small, slender, brown, sometimes with the pronotum becoming darker towards the sides. Head brown, sparsely clothed with scattered pale hairs; median longitudinal furrow wide, divided by a narrow median ridge. Eyes small, reddish, coarsely faceted. Antennae short, slender, testaceous, shortly pilose; segments I, II, III subequal in length and thickness, pale testaceous; IV longer, stouter, brown, clothed with longer hairs; formula—I, 9; II, 9; III, 9; IV, 12. Rostrum long, slender, testaceous, reaching to base of metasternum. Legs slender, rather short, testaceous, sparsely clothed with short pale hairs. Middle and hind coxae widely separated so as to form a wide sternum, the sternum flattened or impressed.

Pronotum brown, often darkened laterally, moderately narrowed anteriorly, deeply pitted, shallowly longitudinally furrowed on median line, with a deep impression on each side just back of collar; humeral angles not very prominent, slightly impressed within. Exposed part of mesonotum very short, brown, not wider than scutellum. Scutellum small, brown, almost triangular in outline, with narrow median carina, the outer edges on each side also narrowly ridged; the length and width subequal. Hemelytra fumose with base and three spots in apical area white; two veins dark brown, prominent, narrowly separated with narrow space between them white, apically with the inner vein turned abruptly so as to unite obliquely the two veins, the posterior margin almost obliquely truncate (feebly rounded). Dorsal surface of head, pronotum and hemelytra sparsely and inconspicuously clothed with pale hairs, the veins of hemelytra more hairy than membrane; sides of body also with short hairs. Abdomen beneath fuscous-brown with bluish lustre. Apterous form unknown. Length, 1.55 mm.; width, 0.50 mm.

Type (male) and *allotype* (female), CANAL ZONE, PANAMA, Feb. 10, 1939, C. J. Drake, *Paratypes*: 6 specimens taken with type; 2 specimens, C. Valles, Mex., July 17, 1950, C. J. Drake; and 1 specimen, Rio Frio, Colombia, March 10, 1918, Darlington.

This tiny species is most closely related to *M. hebroides* B.-White, but separated from it by its narrowed form and much shallower pronotal sulcus. *M. brunnea* Drake is a lighter colored species with the part of vein connecting the two veins distinctly rounded instead of obliquely truncate.

An examination of the type of *M. slosson* Van Duzee in the California Academy of Sciences shows this species to be a synonym of *M. hebroides* B.-White (*new synonymy*).